MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 DECEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Tehran Radio reported that Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi told PARS that the report by the Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR that the American hostages will be released on Christmas Day is "without foundation." The Iranian Government, Nabavi said, has not yet finished studying the American response to the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages and has not sent any reply to Washington. The Minister also denied AS-SAFIR's claim that Iran has agreed to let U.S. courts decide whether the late shah's assets in American banks should be returned to Iran or go to the shah's heirs, terming such a condition as "absolutely not acceptable" to the Iranian Government. Referring to AS-SAFIR's assertion that Washington has refused to supply military spare parts in exchange for the release of the hostages, Nabavi said Iran has not made and will not make a request for spare parts.

Iran Domestic Affairs

Call for Popular Force--Following his arrival in Mashhad, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, in a speech to revolution guards reported by Tehran radio, expressed hope that in accordance with the wishes of Imam Khomeyni and the nation, the revolution guards corps, the armed forces, the gendarmerie and the police will soon become unified into a "popular force."

Clash With "Illegal Forces"--An armed forces communique reported by Tehran Radio revealed that on 9 and 10 December units of the army, guards corps and the peshmergas clashed with "armed illegal forces that call themselves popular and people's forces" in the region of Marivan and Dezhni hamlet. The communique admitted that at such a "sensitive and fateful" moment of the war with Iraq, "internal mercenaries" and "enemies of the Islamic revolution" are creating "problems" for the country. The Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio reported clashes in recent days between "frontline peshmergas," apparently linked with the Kurdish Democratic Party, and government forces in the regions of Mahabad, Sar Dasht and Saqqez. The Kurdish radio claimed that reports on the fighting from Tehran underestimated government forces' casualties in the fighting.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iran Foreign Ministry Statement--An Iranian Foreign Ministry Statement, reported by Tehran radio, described Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as a "tool for implementing" the plans of the "enemies of the Islamic revolution." Now that they have failed to "destroy our popular regime," it said, such enemies are now thinking of another plan to deal a blow from another quarter." The Foreign Ministry criticized other governments for their failure to give diplomatic support "publicly and openly" to Iran. Unless Iran's call finds a response, the statement warned, it will only be natural for the war to continue. It also denounced the concentration of naval forces by the "strong powers" close to the area and declared Iranian opposition to foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf, reiterating Iran's guarantee to keep the Strait of Hormuz open.

Military Situation--Although an Iranian Armed Forces communique said ground fighting was continuing in the western region and a guards corps statement reported fighting on the Susangerd, Rijab and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts on 9-10 December, Tehran radio reported that "sporadic fighting" continued along the western fronts more calmly than in previous days, with artillery fire rather than "direct confrontation" being the norm. An Iraqi General Command communique, reported by Baghdad radio, also confirmed the slowdown in activity, claiming only small numbers of Iranian losses. Tehran radio reported Iranian air activity over Iraq east of As-Sulaymaniyah and Iraqi air raids on five Iranian cities on 10 December.

Brezhnev Gulf Proposals

Egypt--According to MENA, a senior Egyptian Foreign Ministry official called Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's proposals for the military neutralization, political nonalignment and economic sovereignty of the Persian Gulf "ridiculous" in light of its current occupation of Afghanistan. While Egypt still insists on the neutrality of the area, the official continued, it recognizes the needs of the Gulf states to protect their soverignty against possible outside threats, especially after the Soviet action in Afghanistan.

Iran--Tehran radio described Brezhnev's proposals as a "benevolent gesture" similar to the Russian stance during the Cuban missile crisis. In a commentary, the radio said the Soviet leader is trying to portray himself as a "moderate and peace-seeking" man in contrast with President-elect Ronald Reagan's strong pronouncements on the U.S. role in the Persian Gulf while at the same time Soviet troops continue to occupy Afghanistan and the Polish crisis simmers. The radio also criticized the President-elect and "his Zionist aides, Kissinger and Henry Jackson," for having pushed a permanent U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf and for "fomenting war" by "promoting a flood of American arms sales to Arab states." The main cause of unrest in the Middle East, the radio went on, is the superpower rivalry and their attempts to dominate the area.

Kuwait--A AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM editorial, reviewed by KUNA, said Brezhnev's proposals make it clear the Soviet Union "has no designs whatsoever" on the oil in the Middle East. "We believe that the Soviet Union will be the first to abide by this proposal," it continued, "if the United States accepts it." AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM questioned whether the U.S. presence in the Gulf is to counter the Soviet threat or to counter the "Arab threat" to use its oil in the fight against Israel. If the Soviet proposals to neutralize the Gulf are adopted, the paper added, "what will remain for the United States to save us from?"

PLO-Jordanian Relations

Following on a previous report by Baghdad radio that the PLO and the Jordanian Government are holding contacts to specify the date for a joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee meeting, the Jordanian newspaper AR-RA'Y reported a 9 December meeting between the Jordanian minister of occupied land affairs, Hasan Ibrahim, and the director general of the PLO Political Department, 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya. According to AR-RA'Y, Al-Yahya told the minister that the current Jordanian-Syrian crisis will not affect the work of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee. A further report by AR-RA'Y announced that the joint committee will meet in Amman on 20 December.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL ADDRESSES AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES CONGRESS

LD120030 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The first congress of the agricultural cooperatives of the DRA opened this morning in the Salam Khanah Palace, headquarters of the Revolution Council, with the recitation of a few verses from the holy Koran and the national anthem followed by a speech by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister.

In part of his speech, which was full of revolutionary fervor and which had a warm reception from the audience, Babrak Karmal said: We are pleased that you, the majority of our homeland's social force--in other words, representatives of our peasants--are participating in the first agricultural cooperatives' congress, which became possible following the DRA's continuous victories and the widening of our people's revolutionary gains.

The chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister added: The PDPA, as leader of the homeland's workers and toilers, patiently, honestly and indefatigably pursues its aims and performs its duties, such as resolving the land problem by: eliminating all feudal and prefeudal relationships, eliminating oppressive and exploitive land ownership, distributing land among landless peasants and small landowners, and by enhancing the level of valuable productive activities and improving the peasants' living standards. In general, the PDPA will not hesitate to take action to enhance the toilers' living standards, economic growth, and living standards, improve training and education, eliminate illiteracy, enhance the Afghan people's national culture, and democratize the country's social and political life.

In another part of his speech Babrak Karmal said: There is wide support among the homeland's toilers for the DRA and the revolutionary government because this government is the true representative of the homeland's toilers and the preserver of their vital interests. The counterrevolutionaries created fabrications and false and deceptive slogans--counterrevolutionaries such as Amin's evil fascist dictatorship which brought to the country a number of inexperienced individuals to serve his treacherous activities--but now their inhuman, dreadful crimes such as the ruthless killing of children, old men and women, insulting and defaming our peace-loving and noble people, setting fire to mosques, schools and hospitals, and hundreds of other savage crimes have opened the people's eyes.

Now the people have actively and positively risen to defend the gains of the revolution, independence and national sovereignty against external aggression, expecially against the aggression of imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism and reaction of the region and also against the counterrevolutionaries who have shed the blood of Muslims.

BARIALAY DISCUSSES PDPA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CLERGY

LD120604 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Mahmud Barialay, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, gave a press conference in Budapest today. He dealt, first and foremost, with the most important current issues concerning Afghanistan. Our reporter Miklos Keleti was among the journalists at the conference.

What stage has Afghanistan reached now, 1 year after the decisive military and political turning point which made possible the correcting of earlier distortions and the renewal of the revolution? Mahmud Barialay, member of the Central Committee of the governing People's Democratic Party and head of the foreign relations department, gave a briefing on this painful process.

Mahmud Barialay said that the external threat was the reason for the presence of the Soviet Army; however, only units of the newly organized Afghan Army took part in the fighting against the internal counterrevolutionary groups.

On behalf of the Evening Magazine [radio program] I asked the Afghan party leader about the extent to which the party has succeeded in turning the mullahs, that is, the Muslim priests, to the side of the revolution. In his answer, Mahmud Barialay stressed that the ideology of the party was opposed to the religious world view. Since the objective of the party is to be active on behalf of all Afghan workers, however, it respects people's religious sentiments. Incidentally, the vast majority of the 15-million-strong population of Afghanistan are practicing Muslims.

Mahmud Barialay said that during the first phase of the revolution the leadership of that time was impatient and often used force against the religious leaders, whom it regarded without exception as opponents of progress. We now take reality as our point of departure, Mahmud Barialay continued, that is to say that the thinking of the predominantly illiterate population is still being formed mainly by the mullahs. We are endeavoring to find a common denominator with the religious leaders, namely, those elements of religious teaching that concern the struggle against oppression and exploitation. Islam provides many opportunities for cooperation and for this we have already created the necessary organizational framework. This was stated at the Budapest press conference given today by Mahmud Barialay, head of the Foreign Relations Department of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH CSSR IN KABUL

LD112248 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] A protocol for the exchange of commercial goods in 1981 was signed today in Kabul by the Ministry of Commerce of the DRA and its CSSR counterpart.

The protocol was signed for the Afghan side by 'Abdol Salam, deputy minister of commerce, and for Czechoslovakia by Juroslav Jakobec, deputy minister of foreign trade of that country, and the appropriate documents were exchanged. The signing was attended by Mohammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce of the DRA, and Zdenek Karmelita, the ambassador of the CSSR in Kabul.

A BAKHTAR correspondent, citing a source in the Ministry of Commerce, reports that according to this protocol the volume of trade between the two countries will be increased by 36 percent in comparison to the volume of trade under the previous protocol for the past year. The source added that in 1981 the export of items such as raisins, dried fruits and handicrafts such as carpets, rugs and pelts, is expected to icrease by about 33 percent over 1980.

COMMERCE MINISTER COMMENTS ON TRADE WITH CSSR

LD112326 Prague CTK in English 1715 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Kabul, 11 Dec (CTK)--(CETEKA correspondent)--Afthan Trade Minister M. Jalalar appreciated in an interview with CETEKA today the contribution of Afghan-Czechoslovak cooperation in trade and technology for the development of Afghan national economy and expressed the hope that it will be further strengthened and extended.

Minister Jalalar, who took part in the signing of a protocol on goods exchange between Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan for the year 1981, recalled the tradition of trade relations between the two countries and pointed out that many complete plants built with Czechoslovak aid served and serve well. New projects are under preparation on the basis of this experience.

M. Jalalar appreciated the Czechoslovak credit policy, which is mutually advantageous. Afghanistan has raw materials and Czechoslovakia can supply technology, which creates a good base for fruitful cooperation, the Afghan minister said and stressed that Afghanistan is very satisfied with the present level of economic relations.

VOLUNTEERS DEPART KABUL TO FIGHT REBELS

LD112034 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] A large number of cadres, party activists and patriots have voluntarily left for one of the regions of the country in order to crush the enemies of the revolution and our country. A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that before the departure of the revolutionary and militant youths from Kabul, Lt Col Hakim, member of the justice and defense department and member of the PDPA Central Committee, thanked the revolutionary and militant youths who volunteered to decisively crush the enemies of our revolution and our people.

FARYAB UNIT REWARDED FOR VICTORIES OVER REBELS

LD052201 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Dec 80

[Text] The soldiers and officers of the operational battalion of the Province of Faryab, who succeeded in gaining great victories in crushing the counterrevolutionaries in the vicinity of this province, especially in the salt mines, were given more encouragement by the presentation of gifts.

At the reception given yesterday in the park of the operational motorized battalion for the distribution of these gifts, a soldier said: Until our dear and beloved homeland, the free and revolutionary Afghanistan, is cleared of the traitors of the homeland and revolution, we will continue our resolute revolutionary struggle and will not lay down our arms for a moment. The BAKHTAR agency correspondent reports from the province of Faryab that afterwards the gifts, provided by the police command office of this province, were presented to the soldiers by their commander.

REFUGEES WHO FLED AMIN REGIME RETURN

GF051530 Kabul in Urdu to South Asia 1330 GMT 5 Dec 80

[Text] Some 240 of our countrymen who left the country due to the atrocities of Amin and his criminal band returned to their homes on 3 December. Security officers welcomed these countrymen at the Eslam Qal'eh border post. Some of these countrymen, representing the returnees, expressed their gratitude for the help and cooperation extended to them by the government and party workers.

EX-REBEL 'LIVING NORMAL LIFE' AFTER SURRENDERING

LD052204 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Dec 80

[Text] According to the BAKHTAR agency reporter in Mehterlam, a number of rebels, obedient servants of imperialism and reaction, in 'Alingar District, Laghman Province were crushed by the indefatigable efforts of the soldiers, police and party activists with the cooperation of the noble people of the district. Five weapons and a large number of American, Chinese and Pakistani bullets were seized from these rebels.

According to another report, a leader of the counterrevolutionaries, these enemies of the revolution and the homeland, named Ahmedullah, an inhabitant of 'Alingar District who was accused of terrorism against the national government, confident of the humane spirit of the revolutionary government laid down his weapons and surrendered to the district authorities.

Ahmedullah, in the course of repenting his past actions and with great confidence in the party and the Government of the DRA, expressed his support and willingness to sacrifice for the objectives of the Sawr Revolution, particularly its second development stage. A source in 'Alingar District said that Ahmedullah is living a normal life among his toiling compatriots.

AFP: GOVERNMENT TRYING TO WIN OVER FRONTIER TRIBES

BK110216 Hong Kong AFP in English 0157 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Islamabad, 11 Dec (AFP)--The Afghan Government is stepping up its campaign to win over tribes in frontier areas and could get some of them to become neutral, a diplomatic source said here.

In the last few weeks, Kabul Radio announced successively that the chiefs of three major tribal groups with territory on the Afghan-Pakistani border-- the Mohmands, Nuristanis and Safis--had fallen in line with Afghanistan's pro-Soviet leadership. Each declared allegiance during meetings after which the tribal leaders signed resolutions promising to fight the Moslem rebels and conceding that the Soviet Union was playing a positive role in the country. The chieftains were to get money and light arms in exchange, according to Western diplomatic sources.

Some rebel sources in Peshawar, Pakistan, near the Afghan frontier, added that rebels were already being denied access by residents of some border regions, but the campaign still appeared relatively small-scale and most rebel groups denied that there was any change. These "rallyings to the government are just lies", commented a spokesman for the Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan. The difficulties could originate only "from conflicts that have always existed between tribes", he added.

When tribal chiefs who were meeting with the government appeared on television, members of a Safi delegation which had come to talk to Afghan leader Babrak Karmal wore modern-style clothes and had citified hair cuts. Diplomatic sources believed these details cast doubt on the tribal leaders' authenticity.

In trying to follow a policy of what the sources called subordination, the Karmal government was trying to revive a practice used by the former Afghan monarchy and which Marxist regimes had outlawed in an alleged attempt to "end feudalism," the sources added.

Faiz Mohammad, former frontier affairs minister and architect of the revival, was killed in September in Paktia Province (east Afghanistan) by people he was trying to rally to the revolution, and rebels said they had destroyed money the official had brought with him "to buy the tribe."

But despite the Islamic Alliance's belief that "the tribes are fighting a jihad (holy war) against the Soviet invader and the communist government," diplomatic observers believe the Afghan Government may make some headway with the frontier groups--a development which would give it a new advantage.

LE MONDE: REBELS URGE SOVIET TROOPS TO MUTINY

LD051743 Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Dec 80 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Rebels Call on Soviet Soldiers To Mutiny"]

[Text] The Jalalabad-Towr Kham road--the main road between Afghanistan and Pakistan--has been blocked since the afternoon of Sunday 30 November following an attack by groups of Muslim guerrillas, AFP indicates on the basis of information gathered on the spot. Monday afternoon there was no automobile traffic on this road at the Towr Kham border post.

In Paris (Mohammed Nazem), one of the leaders of the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, stated that at least 11 Soviet divisions are now in his country. He said that 5 divisions are stationed in the region of Herat in the northwest while the other 6 are distributed throughout the country. The Soviet troops who have arrived recently, (Nazem) indicated, are older, more experienced and better trained in counterinsurgency warfare than those in the first expeditionary corps.

In addition, according to a pamphlet distributed in Kabul recently, of which a copy has been sent to us, it seems that some Afghan rebels--some of whom belong to the People's Organization for the Liberation of Afghanistan's Peoples [SAMA]--a pro-Chinese organization--are directing their propaganda at Soviet soldiers. This pamphlet is written in Russian and is addressed to all the peoples of the USSR.

According to a former SAMA member, a former pupil at the (Esteqlal) school in Kabul who recently fled to the West, the pro-Chinese militants, rather than grouping into a separate organization, are trying to "infiltrate" the mojahedin (Muslim fighters) movements in order to counterbalance the mullahs' influence. These tactics are apparently achieving good results in Hazarajat--a region of central Afghanistan.

The following is the text of the pamphlet addressed to the Red Army troops:

"Soldiers of the Soviet Army: Turkmens, Tadzhiks, Siberians!

"You are in Afghanistan as soldiers of an imperialist occupation army, you are fighting against Afghanistan's peaceful people who have never done you any harm. With your hands you are serving the political system in the USSR that has deprived men of basic democratic freedoms, has created a new ruling class of oppressors and exploiters, permanent lines outside stores and a chronic shortage of essential goods and of many food products.

"You are shedding your blood and the blood of innocent Afghans in order to colonize a foreign country. You have not been sent here to help Afghanistan, as party officials might tell you. You have been turned into the tool of Muscovite imperialism's expansionism and international gangsterism.

"Your dead friends are sent home in sealed coffins and their families are told that they have been killed during maneuvers. Do not be slaves and annon fodder for the Kremlin imperialists who are oppressing and exterminating the Afghan people--a people defending its honor, freedom and faith in God against the foreign invaders. Do not fight against the Afghans!

"Do not obey the orders given by officers who are turning you into assassins and enslavers. Demand that the Soviet soldiers in Afghanistan depart and return home. "Fight for your people's national and social liberation against the despotism of the Moscow imperialist clique! Transform the imperialist war into a liberation war!

"Long live the national liberation movements working among the USSR peoples! "Long live the fighters working for national independence and freedom. "Long live the independent national and democratic governments of your countries! "Long live Afghanistan's heroic people and its independent government! "Death to the USSR--poison of peoples--death to Bolshevism! Freedom to the peoples! Freedom to men."

[Signed] Peoples' Anti-Soviet Bloc (A.B.N.)

L'HUMANITE CORRESPONDENT TOURS QANDAHAR AREA

LD051159 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 29 Nov 80 p 9

[Regis Aubier dispatch: "Life Normal in Qandahar"]

[Text] Qandahar, 28 Nov--The BBC's third news cast in Persian--one of Afghanistan's two official languages--is broadcast at 2045. With the spread of transistor radios--or rather radio-cassette players, which permit the continuous playing of strings of Indian popular songs--it is possible to hear throughout the territory the sound of Big Ben and a woman's voice with a heavy Iranian accent. "The early morning bulletin is more important," I am told, "because it rounds up the rumors of the day. Then there are the broadcasts of VOA and DEUTSCHE WELLE, from China and Pakistan, not to mention the various radio stations broadcasting from the Near East." None of them is jammed, though his is an out-and-out war of the airwaves.

I was in the office--better described as a monastic cell--where Information and Culture Minister 'Abdol Majid Sarboland works. According to certain sources, I said, your car was recently machinegunned. "Amaszing," he replied. "I know nothing about that, and in any case I was not there." Nor did his three aides, who were clearly in excellent health.

The voice from London announced that, adopting a new tactic, the Soviet Air Force was bombing the environs of Herat and Qandahar. A few days previously AP asserted that such bombing raids had hit the center of these two cities, on 3 November in the case of Herat and 8 November in the case of Qandahar, whose old quarter allegedly suffered much damage. Following the PDPA Central Committee's third session Comrade Sarboland combined, ministerial duties with responsibility for the southern region, which comprises four willayas or provinces, namely Zabul, Uruzgan, Hilmand and Qandahar.

The room where we met that evening was in the center of Qandahar which, with its 300,000 inhabitants, is the country's third-largest city and in a way the capital of the south. I arrived there 3 days previously. I walked entirely unprotected through the bazaar, or rather the two bazaars, one either side of a long and dusty road. I took photographs of everyday life--traders, curious children eager to pose, cyclists in traditional garb--a long overgarment, baggy trousers, a shawl and a turban with a loose end hanging down to the waist. My interpreter and I bought some very sweet white grapes and ate kabob in a cheap eating-house, whose standard of hygiene I would not criticize here.

Life was normal: There were no signs or accounts to lend credit to the bombing story. We combed the old city; there was not the slightest trace of rubble, black scorch marks on a single wall, demolished houses, shellholes or shocks to indicate that these daub dwellings around their central courtyards, or these poor shops and stalls had been the target of an air raid a few days previously. As for the alleged "new Soviet tactic," throughout my 5 days in Qandahar I never heard anything resembling aerial operations. On several occasions I examined the surrounding area from the roof of the public administration building. The only hills that marked the countryside were a long way from the city, and in this clear weather it was possible to see 30 km across this uniformly low city and the vast steppe-like plain.

I visited three villages and talked with the peasants; they knew nothing about any Soviet bombardments. At the airport, which is about 20 minutes' walk away, the aircraft were covered by tarpaulins. I had to wait 5 hours for the aircraft which took us back to Kabul. During that time, part of which I spent in the control tower, no fighter-bombers took off and the Soviet troops whom I did see were on short leave. As a final proof, the airport staff, many of whom live in the neighboring countryside, confirmed my observations. This is a further example of the fact that some media are deliberately lying every day about what is happening in Afghanistan.

DACCA PROTESTS PAKISTANI REMARKS ON 'EAST' PAKISTAN

BK111604 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] The Foreign Office has lodged a strong protest against the reported statement on Bangladesh by Pakistani Federal Minister of State for Social Welfare Mahmud Ali in Lahore recently.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the Bangladesh Government would have dismissed such irresponsible and preposterous remarks as unworthy of comment, but since the statement had been attributed to a responsible minister of the Pakistani Government, the ambassador of Pakistan in Dacca was summoned to the Foreign Office and a strong protest was lodged. The reported statement was today carried by a Dacca daily.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1434 GMT on 11 December in a similar report adds the following:

"The Foreign Office today summoned Pakistan Ambassador Mohammad Humayun Khan in Dacca and lodged a strong protest against the reported statement by Pakistani Federal Minister of State for Social Welfare Mahmud Ali on possibility of restoring link with the erstwhile eastern wing of Pakistan (now Bangladesh)."]

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT 5 DEC

BK051344 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Dec 80

[Text] Bangladesh believes in one China policy and consdiers Taiwan as an integral part of mainland China. As such, the question does not arise for Bangladesh to have diplomatic relations with Taiwan. This was stated by Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq during question hour in Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] this morning.

He said Bangldesh has proposed the holding of a regional summit of seven South Asia countries to promote more cooperation among them. The Bangladesh president's proposal in this respect has been sent to Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and all these countries have agreed in principle to such a summit. Negotiations for holding this conference have achieved considerable progress.

The foreign minister informed the house that negotiations have been held with India to determine the ownership of the island along the river (Prina Banga). This island is known as Talpati in Bangladesh. The two governments have agreed to arrive at an early and satisfactory decision on the ownership of the island. The Bangladesh foreign minister said the coundary along the Muharir Char has not yet been demarcated because the border agreement signed in 1974 between Bangladesh and India is yet to be ratified by the Indian Government. Following talks held in Dacca last August between the foreign ministers of the two countries, it has been decided to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the problem at an early date. The two governments have also decided to arrive at a satisfactory decision on the ownership of the Purbasha Island Replying to a supplementary, the foreign minister said the Purbasha Island is neither inhabited nor under any third country's possession at the moment.

Replying to questions on Afghanistan, Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq said Bangladesh is against interference in any form in the internal affairs of Afghanistan by any country. We want the people of Afghanistan to decide their future according to their own will. The Bangladesh Government's position on Afghanistan has been (?firm) and explained at various international forums. He said Bangladesh has sent tea and other relief items to Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

JOINT INDO-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ON BREZHNEV VISIT

For the text of the joint Indo-Soviet communique on the visit to India by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev, as carried by TASS, see page D 1 of the South Asia section of the 12 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

GANDHI OPINES ON GULF WAR, RELATIONS WITH SUPERPOWERS

BK120948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has said nonalignment is essential for peace. Its validity should not be judged only with reference to the Iran-Iraq conflict and Afghanistan. In an interview to a foreign journal, she pointed out that it is in everybody's interest that the Iran-Iraq war should stop. India has made a frank assessment of the situation and would like any initiative which would succeed.

In reply to a question whether India would seek more oil from the Soviet Union since they have plenty of it, the prime minister asked why then does the West think that the Soviet Union wanted to advance toward the oil fields in West Asia. She said it is not likely that Afghanistan would listen to Pakistan, especially when Afghanistan thought that Pakistan is encouraging dissension.

Asked about India's views on the proclamation of a nuclear free zone, Mrs Gandhi said the question is whether a mere declaration would make the United States give up Diego Garcia.

RAO ATTACKS PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS EFFORTS

BK120921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] The government is taking all necessary steps to safeguard the country's security in view of reports in the world press that Pakistan is trying to make a nuclear device. This was reiterated by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in the Rajya Sabha today. He was replying to a calling attention notice on the reported illegal transfer of U.S. made electronic equipment to Pakistan through Canada which can be used for developing atomic weapons. The motion was raised by Shiv Chandra Jha, Janata, and 44 others representing all sides of the house.

Narasimha Rao stated that according to government's information Pakistan has been trying to acquire uranium enrichment capability and also the technology to reprocess nuclear fuel which could enable it to develop atomic weapons. To build up uranium enrichment and nuclear reprocessing facilities, Pakistan is believed to have imported vital equipment from various European countries in a clandestine manner. Recent disclosure about the shipment of U.S.-made electronic equipment to Pakistan via Canada is one of the many reports appeared in the world press in the past several months about procurement of equipment by Pakistan which could be used for building up her nuclear capability.

Narasimha Rao informed the house that according to the latest information three persons have been charged before a criminal court in Canada for exporting strategic electronic equipment illegally to Pakistan. He said they are now Canadian citizens; one of them is of Indian origin and another of Pakistan.

Narasimha Rao, however, hoped that the Government of Pakistan would abide by its assurances that its nuclear program is solely directed toward peaceful purposes and has no nonpeaceful dimensions. He also hoped that Pakistan would decist from any action which would disturb the peace and stability in the subcontinent and impair the process of normalization of mutual relations.

Initiating the discussion, Shiv Chandra Jha criticized the United States for its endeavor to weaken India by strengthening its neighbors. Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi was present when the house took up the call attention notice for discussion.

PAKISTANI MINISTERS REMARKS ON 'EAST' PAKISTAN SCORED

BK111136 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Balraj Suri commentary: "Pakistan's Sinister Motives"]

[Text] Addressing a memorial meeting at Lahore on Saturday, Mr Mahmud Ali [Pakistan's minister of state for sociali welfare] is reported to have said that the fulfillment of the dream of a strong Pakistan would enable that country to secure a corridor through India connecting Pakistan with Bangladesh. It is well known that Pakistan is on the threshhold of attaining nuclear capability and becoming stronger than ever before, but it is unfortunate that at a time when this entire region including the Indian subcontinent is grappling with complex internal and international problems, instead of making some contribution to solving them the Pakistani leadership is thinking in such blatantly linguistic terms and planning to create fresh problems not only for India but for everyone around. It is difficult to lightly dismiss Mr Ali's statement as an off-the-cuff remark. It indeed betrays the basic inspiration and direction of Islamabad's complicated mental processes in so far as countries in the neighborhood are concerned.

Relations between India and Pakistan since the inception of Pakistan 33 years ago have witnessed many vicissitudes and there have been three pointless wars between the two countries. These could well have been avoided but for Pakistan's irrepressible tendency to transform its wishful thinking into an intransigent will and then seeking to impose it on this country by fair means or foul. It was expected that these three wars would have, if nothing else, at least make Pakistan wise to the irrefutable reality that the use of force solves nothing. On the other hand it only further complicates matters, but it has been Pakistan's [words indistinct] from the beginning that it has always failed to distinguish between reality and fantasy. Mr Ali's statement is an indication as well as proof of the fact that the Pakistani leadership has not yet been able to remedy this previous failure of perception.

Mr Ali's statement is particularly regrettable in view of the fact that India has always had the friendliest of feelings for Pakistan and consistently endeavored to improve relations with her so that both the sountries can devote their energies and resourtes exclusively to meeting the domestic challenges of development which they have as much in common as their history and culture or their language and race. After a decisive victory in the 1971 war, it was India which took the initiative for peace as it had done so often before which culminated in the Simla agreement of 1972. Under this agreement India returned 90,000 Pakistani prisoners of war as well as all captured Pakistani territory and both countries solemnly resolved to settle their differences across the conference table and specifically undertook to foresake the use of force in the future for settling disputes.

It is a matter of deep concern thatthe Pakistan Government has in less than adecade forgotten the letter and spirit of the Simla agreement and is thinking in terms of Pakistan strong enough to impose its wavered will on others, but Pakistan is quite mistaken if it thinks other countries too are as conveniently forgetful as itself. The wording of the statement of the Pakistani minister of social welfare is particularly significant in this context. In about as much time as it takes to wave a magic wand, he has wished away the existence of a sovereign nation of over 70 million people--Bangladesh--and described it as the eastern wing which would again become East Pakistan. Pakistan has often in the past accused India of not being reconciled to Pakistan's existence. The phrasing of Mr Ali's ominous statement shows to what extent Pakistan is reconciled to the existence of an independent Bangladesh, but Bangladeshis themselves had not forgotten their ruthless exploitation for a quarter of a century for which it will be difficult to find a parallel even in the history of colonial rule anywhere.

They have also not forgotten the brutal genocide of 1971 or the countless other atrocities they suffered in that tragic year. Let Pakistan remember that Bangladeshis have won their freedom the hard way with their blood and tears. They are certainly not going to present it on a silver platter to Pakistan to become second class citizens once again. Pakistan must disabuse its mind of dreams of corridors and verandahs at the earliest possible.

INDIAN PAPERS REACT TO BREZHNEV PROPOSALS

BK120702 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] New Delhi, 12 Dec (AFP)--Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's five-point formula for peace and security in the Persian Gulf provoked a mixed reaction from editorialists of leading Indian newspapers here this morning.

The large-circulation English daily, INDIAN EXPRESS, saw nothing new in the five points except that is was the first time that they had been presented as a "doctrine." The paper, which usually opposes Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's policies, said the Soviet Union had long proposed the five points and "by limiting the application of this doctrine to the Persian Gulf area and the adjacent islands, it will undermine the present American and allied deployment in that region--a possibility that will be welcomed in the Third World."

"Nevertheless," the paper added, "It has to be borne in mind that this would leave the Soviet position in the region untouched." The INDIAN EXPRESS referred to the joint declaration signed by Mrs Gandhi and Mr Brezhnev as an endorsement of the Soviet views by the former "on the major areas of conflict in the world." "What is particularly disturbing is the reaffirmation of the Indo-Soviet treaty of 1971 in this context," the paper added.

The independent HINDUSTAN TIMES, in its editorial, called the Brezhnev proposal for the Gulf "statesmanlike," saying it should evoke some response from the other superpower. The paper said, "keeping the peace primarily is the responsibility of the U.S. and the Soviet Union." "If the U.S. has a non-military counter-proposal for the region, it would be interesting to know what it is," the paper noted.

The TIMES OF INDIA, published from New Delhi and Bombay, felt Mr Brezhnev was addressing his proposal as much to the new U.S. President, Ronald Reagan, as to Mrs Gandhi. "Since Mr Brezhnev and his colleagues in the Kremlin cannot be interested in a new arms race with the United States and all that it implies by way of increased tensions all over the world, they should wish to convey it to the U.S. president-elect and his team that they are prepared for a wide-ranging understanding which would include the Gulf," the paper said.

The TIMES OF INDIA referred to Mr Brezhnev's reaffirmation of his interest in a political settlment of Afghanistan and suggested that "perhaps he will need to go farther than he has gone so far." Turning to the joint declaration, the paper underlined the uncertainties prevailing in the minds of both Mr Brezhnev and Mrs Gandhi regarding the policies of the new Reagan administration and noted the failure of the declaration to touch more hopefully on aspects of international detente. "India is place in an extremely uncertain position. New Delhi just cannot predict how responsibly or irresponsibly the Reagan administration will behave in region. This obliges Mrs Gandhi, on the one hand, not to confirm the would-be Republican rulers in Washington in their old suspicions regarding this country and, on the other, to avoid misunderstanding with the Soviet leadership. Having taken care of the second problem with Mr Brezhnev's visit, she should now be able to attend to the first with her usual skill and determination," the paper said.

BREZHNEV, HAQ EXCHANGE GOOD-NEIGHBOR MESSAGES

BK111532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Soviet President Brezhnev has sent a message of good wishes to President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq while overflying Pakistani territory on his way back home after concluing the visit to India. The Soviet president has said in his message that the Soviet Union desires to promote relations with Pakistan on a good-neighbor basis.

While expressing his appreciation for the message, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said, like the Soviet president, Pakistan also desires that relations between the two countries be promoted on a good-neighbor basis and he gave assurances on cooperation in this connection.

MINISTER ALI DENIES STATEMENT ON BAGLADESH

BK111618 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Mahmud Ali, federal minister of state and chairman of the National Council of Social Welfare, has refuted the report published in a section of the press and broadcast by a foreign country's radio that Pakistan will secure a regional corridor to link Bangladesh, which could again be East Pakistan, with West Pakistan. He said he has never mentioned in any of his speeches about securing a regional corridor or any such thing between two countries as published in a section of the press and a foreign country's radio.

AFGHAN REFUGEES IN PAKISTAN NOW NUMBER 1.3 MILLION

OW112228 Hong Kong AFP in English 2225 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Geneva, 11 Dec (AFP)--The number of Afghan refugees registered by Pakistani authorities last December 1 rose to 1.3 million, the office of the high commissioner for refugees announced here today.

This represented a rise of 8 percent over the previous month, the announcement said.

In the total number, it added, more than 1 million stayed in the Northwest border Province, 225,000 in Baluchistan and the remainder in other provinces.

NABAVI DENIES AS-SAFIR CLAIM ON HOSTAGES

LD111844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] AS-SAFIR newspaper published in Lebanon claimed that following the agreement between Tehran and Washington over the wealth of the destroyed shah the 52 American hostages will be released on Christmas Day. According to this newspaper, the American Government has agreed to release the wealth left by the destroyed Mohammad Reza so that the American courts can decide about turning it over to the Iranian Government or the heirs of the destroyed shah. AS-SAFIR, which claimed that it received this report from reliable Iranian sources adds: In case the hostages are set free, America will still refrain from supplying spare parts to Iran.

In a contact with engineer Behzad Nabavi, the minister without portfolio [title as heard], PARS was informed: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has not yet completed its study of the American response to the suggested Iranian conditions and has not sent any reply to Washington. Therefore, the discussions about the releasing of the hostages or the date of the releasing of the hostages is without foundation. According to engineer Nabavi, when the American Government accepts the conditions put forward by the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the methods of their implementation which will be defined by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, then one can be hopeful about the release of the hostages.

The minister without portfolio was asked about AS-SAFIR's claim regarding the agreement of the American Government concerning leaving the issue of investigating the deposed shah's wealth to the American courts. He said: The condition concerning the leaving of the investigation of the wealth of the destroyed Mohammad Reza to the American courts is absolutely not acceptable to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Concerning the issue of the spare parts, engineer Nabavi said: Basically, Iran has not made and will not make such a request for it to be opposed by America. The minister without portfolio also explained: None of the responsible officials of the country have had any discussion with AS-SAFIR.

KHAMENE'I BRIEFS KHOMEYNI ON SITUATION AT FRONTS

GF111715 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Excerpt] The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, received this morning the Tehran Friday imam and the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Khamene'i. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i briefed the imam on the latest developments on the battlefronts.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES RETURNED DELEGATIONS 11 DEC

LD111126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] This morning Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami Kashani and Mohammad Khatami, who have returned from trips to Europe and the Middle East, were received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They submitted a report to the imam of ummah on the work of the delegation to explain the standpoints of the Islamic revolution of Iran in foreign countries. Following the meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami Kashani told our reporter: We briefed the imam on the enthusiasm, excitement and support shown by the ulema, the intellectual and brother Sunnis in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh with regard to Iran's revolution and the Islamic Republic.

The imam of ummah stressed that such delegations should be sent to various countries to explain the standpoints of the revolution and those of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Dr Seyyed Mohammad Khatami, superviser of KEYHAN newspaper, also told out reporter following the meeting that, while giving the necessary guidelines regarding KEYHAN newspaper, the imam said: Our press must be impartial, publish material in the interest of Islam and the nation, describe to the people the great and beautiful things associated with this revolution, try to avoid divisive remarks, and not tarnish with ill intention and bias.

MONTAZERI'S SON APPOINTED TO PRISON COMMISSION

LD121150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Statement issued by the office of Imam Khomeyni on 12 December]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In accordance with the decision to appoint a representative of the leader of the revolution, his great eminence, the imam, His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Montazeri [son of Ayatollah Montazeri], may his munificence long continue, has been appointed as the representative of the leader of the revolution. If cases of torture are proved, Hojjat ol-Eslam Montazeri will, without the slightest forgiveness or forebearance, report the incident to his great eminence, the imam, so that the torturer may receive his religious and legal punishment. We beseech God Almighty for the complete success of the commission.

[Signed] The office of Imam Khomeyni, 12 December 1980

RAJA'I IN KHORASAN ON INSPECTION TOUR, PILGRIMAGE

LD111236 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Excerpt] According to reports by the correspondents of the Central News Bureau and PARS, Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning arrived in Mashhad by air accompanied by Dr Manafi, minister of health, and Mr Sadat, the acting minister of oil, in order to pay pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Imam Reza, may God's peace be upon him, and to inspect the gas transmission installations in Khorasan. At the airport, he was welcomed by the representative of the imam and the supervisor of the holy shrine of Imam Reza, the governor general of Khorasan, the mayor of Mashhad, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the head of the police of the province and other military and security officials.

According to PARS, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i spoke to a gathering of Islamic revolution guards brothers who had gone to welcome him. In a short speech, praising their activities and self-sacrifice, he expressed his hope that soon the corps, the armed forces, the gendarmerie and the police will become unified more than ever before in the form of a popular force, and that the long-cherished hope of the imam and the nation will be realized.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON WAR WITH IRAQ

LD120232 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2345 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday issued the following statement on the war Iraq has imposed on Iran:

In view of the sensitive nature of the region and the war imposed on Iran and the pretexts which the strong powers might use to expand the war and infiltrate further into the Persian Gulf, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers it its duty to inform the struggling Iranian Muslim people and brother Iraqis and the world's Muslims and world public opinion of the following:

1. The war imposed on Iran was not planned by the Saddam regime. He is only a tool for implementing it. Behind him stand the enemies of the Islamic revolution of Iran, who want to destroy our popular regime and our Islamic revolutionary model. Now that the truth about their designs has been exposed and their plans have failed and the Saddam Husayn regime has fallen victim to these plans and is about to collapse, we are confident that they are now thinking of another plan to deal a blow from another quarter.

2. We thank the peoples for their true and constant support for us in this war that was imposed on us. But we wish to draw the attention of governments to the fact that their silence with regard to the inhuman attack by Saddam's regime and their failure to support right publicly and openly, under whatever pretext or excuse, leads to the continuation of the war and the shedding of blood of innocents and further devastation and ruin for both countries, in addition to giving the rich [muqtadirah] countries pretexts for driving the countries of the area into the furnace of the battle and expanding the war so as to cover the whole area, thus finding an excuse for imposing their imperialist influence over the area.

3. The only road that could keep the plotters away from the Persian Gulf area and put an end to the war imposed by Iraq against the Iranian state as quickly as possible is for governments to respond to our right, legitimate call. Unless our call finds a response and unless the encroaching regime withdraws from our territory unconditionally, it will only be natural for the war to continue.

4. We strongly denounce and condemn the assembly of the naval fleets of the strong powers so close to the area. We declare to the world that there is no justification or reason for this concentration. Their aim is only to widen the crisis in the area in order to attain their imperialist objectives.

As we have declared previously and irrespective of Iran's exercise of its legal right in conjunction with the country party to the conflict in the area, as far as Iran is concerned it will guarantee that the Hormuz Strait shall remain open, declaring at the same time, out of its Islamic revolutionary principles, its opposition to the establishment of any foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf. We believe that our opposition will help to save the interests of the peoples of the area.

5. Since the Islamic revolution of the Iranian people is founded on nonaggression against the waters and territories of other countries and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of these countries, including the countries of the Persian Gulf and neighboring countries, we ask others to consider this true respect and thus refrain from harmful provocations so that they may create no pretexts for aggression by themselves or others.

6. We denounce and condemn the suspicious groupings and alliances whose only aim is to plot and create further confusion in the Persian Gulf area. We draw their attention to the need to mobilize all forces and efforts for the retrieval of the usurped territories and holy Jerusalem, which are occupied by the aggressor Zionist regime. In this case they will find Iran in the forefront of all.

Once more we repeat that these plots and alliances only serve the interests of the enemies of Islam.

[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

TEHRAN RADIO COMMENTS ON BREZHNEV GULF PROPOSAL

LD111418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] A visit to India by Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, has ended, and at the end of the official talks between the Soviet leaders and those accompanying him and Mrs Gandhi, the Soviet premier and Mrs Gandhi held private talks for 90 minutes. At the conclusion of this visit three economic, trade and cultural agreements were signed.

Brezhnev's visit to India dominated all news agency reporting. The most important aspect of the visit was Brezhnev's speech to the Indian members of Parliament. In this speech, which was reported by all the news agencies, Brezhnev proposed a plan, entitled "A Plan for Security and Peace," to America and other powers in the Persian Gulf region. According to REUTER, the Soviet leader, who was addressing the members of the Indian Parliament, stated that he has proposed a five-point (?plan) of peace and security under which all powers would undertake not to interfere in the use of free sea lanes between the Persian Gulf and other parts of the world. Under the proposal, the stationing of nuclear weapons in the region would also be declared as banned and all countries would undertake not to interfere in the internal affairs of the countries in the Persian Gulf region. Under this plan, foreign powers are required to undertake to respect the nonaligned status of the Persian Gulf countries and not to drag them into military alliances with nuclear powers. They must undertake to respect the sovereignty of coutries over the use of their natural resources.

Stating that the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean region has become a dangerous seat of international crisis, the Soviet leader added that his proposal is not mere words and that it is being offered to America and other Western powers, as well as to China, Japan and all other interested countries. The first understanding of Brezhnev's proposal that all countries should undertake not to interfere in normal trade exchange and the use of waterways, is that the proposal is aimed at allaying Western fears about the possibility of the Soviet Union's closing the Persian Gulf oil jugular.

Brezhnev is raising his peace and security proposal in the Indian Parliament in a benevolent tone at a time when Reagan will soon be taking his place in the White House and when his militarist posture has in effect created a particular atmosphere. By his political and diplomatic tone, and in presenting his peace and security proposal as a benevolent gesture, Brezhnev has in effect adopted the very same attitude that Russia employed in the Cuban crisis and the Bay of Pigs toward America and its threats. While Reagan speaks of increasing military power and of a permament presence in the Persian Gulf, and tries to make up for America's successive defeats so as to continue to indentify U.S. imperialism as the strongest world power, Brezhnev responds to the tough and warmongering atmosphere created by Reagan with a moderate and peace-seeking tone and contrives to present it in a humanitarian light for the Russia that has proved its own militaristic nature in Afghanistan by military occupation.

What is certain is that before one can analyze Brezhnev's remarks in the Indian Parliament in terms of their content, Brezhnev's proposal should be perceived in terms of the long-standing attitude and tactics of the Kremlin leaders vis-a-vis the American ruling circles, an example of which we saw in the case of the Bay of Pigs crisis. In this way Brezhnev makes himself out as a peace-seeking (?benefactor) in the face of Washington's militaristic propaganda and Reagan's tough and uncompromising attacks, and, by contriving to create an atmosphere in this way, he is furthering his own diplomacy.

The facts prove that the Russian and American superpowers have never wanted the people of the world to have a moment's peace or tranquillity. They regard fomenting crises as a means of continuing their hegemony and aggression. The nature of the superpowers lies in their continued hegemonistic policy and in safeguarding their interests in exploitation. The issue of peace or war between the superpowers is not for the sake of the deprived masses of the people and the sovereignty of the oppressed; it is solely for their continued existence and the safeguarding of their vital strategy. The division of the world at the Yalta conference and placing countries in their own blocs and exploiting them as their satellites constitute the inherent longstanding attitude and policy of the superpowers.

Brezhnev brings up his proposals at the Indian Parliament at a time when the Polish crisis is continuing to worsen, the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan is going on, every day dozens of Muslim mojahedin are being martyred at the hands of Russian troops and their independence-seeking cries are being stifled in their throats. And all this comes at a time when [words indistinct] Ronald Reagan and his Zionist aides, Kissinger and Henry Jackson, have donned fascist jackboots and are marching toward the White House, the house of the great Satan. Reagan speaks of a permanent American military presence in the Persian Gulf and, while regarding Jordan as the key to the solution of the Middle East's problems, he is in practice helping to exacerbate the crisis in the region and fomenting war, so as to further America's policy of first acting as a Middle East gendarme by forming a front consisting of the most reactionary regimes dependent on America in the region, and second of further promoting a flood of American arms sales to Arab states in the Persian Gulf and to the regimes dependent on the United States.

At any rate, the world's troubles are due to the arms race of the superpowers and their hegemonistic policy and antihuman aggressions. In his speech Brezhnev was clearly referring to America when he said that the powers who are situated thousands of kilometers away from this region have stationed their fleets in the region, engaged in increasing their arms, expanded their network of military bases and put under pressure and threat those countries which refuse to surrender. Although this is stating the obvious, the same applies to the Soviet Union as well because it has engaged in a competition against the presence of 30 or more U.S. naval craft in the region.

In principle, the main cause of the lack of peace in the world and of disturbances in the Middle East region lies in superpower rivalry, the continuation of their hegemony and aggressions, directly or indirectly. The people of the world will not achieve a lasting peace other than by gaining their true independence and freedom.

This will not be possible except by getting out of the domination of superpowers and by an all-embracing struggle for the total destruction of world imperialism, led by America, and of international Zionism. This is a road that should be traversed by the self-sacrifice and dedication of deprived humanity, and not by a peace proposal from one superpower to another superpower.

FBI, POLICE MISTREATING IRANIAN STUDENTS IN U.S.

GF111726 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Our correspondent in Washington has reported that the committed Iranian students in the United States are being badly treated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the police and the immigration service.

Reports from California said that the committed Iranian students were summoned to police stations for (?ridiculous reasons). Some of them were encouraged to demand political asylum, but these efforts were bravely resisted by the Iranian students.

POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BAHRAIN ON HUNGER STRIKE

GF111705 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] Reports from Bahrain said that more than 400 political prisoners there are still on a hunger strike which they began on 5 December to protest the ill treatment they have received in prison. The reports state that the prisoners are being tortured and that several of them had to be taken to a military hospital after being tortured. The reports further state that 12 of the prisoners on the hunger strike are in serious condition.

MOJAHEDIN ISSUE STATEMENT ON OPERATIONS IN IRAQ

JN111220 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] The Iraqi mojahedin movement has issued a statement in which it reviews the oppressive activities carried out by the infidel Iraqi regime against the Muslim Iraqi people and some of the fedayeen operations carried out by the believer mojahedin against the ruling clique in Baghdad.

Part of the statement says that the terrorist authorities in Baghdad attacked the house of a mojahed in Jamilah quarter and liquidated him and his family--women, men and children--in the middle of the street and in front of people's eyes.

The statement adds that the fedayeen operations of the believer mojahedin, which were directed against regime elements and positions of the so-called People's Army, have escalated in the region of Al-A'zamiyah ath-Thawrah and other regions in Iraq.

As a result of these operations, several people from both sides were killed or wounded.

The statement says that the dictatorial regime in Iraq has executed several opposition officers, including engineer Lt Col Hadi 'Adnan ash-Shadidi from the city of Al-Qazimiyah.

The ruling regime in Baghdad also issued an official statement which stipulates moving security personnel and domestic and traffic police to the battlefront. This is an emergency procedure dictated by the manpower shortage in the collapsing Iraqi Army.

The statement concludes: We shall continue on the long march, sacrifice our people and shed our blood until we defeat the infidel enemy and achieve victory for the great Islamic rule.

IRAQI NAVY PERSONNEL DESERTING THEIR UNITS

JN111907 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] The Central News Bureau and PARS have learned from well-informed sources in Abadan that several Iraqi Navy elements have fled from their units in the coastal border areas to unknown destinations.

Reports mention that the Kuwaiti Coast Guard recently picked up the bodies of 80 Iraqi soldiers and 8 wounded from the Persian Gulf and transported them to the morgue at the Al-Amiri Hospital in Kuwait.

Reports from the forces stationed in Umm ar-Rasas mention that the fighters of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by opening intensive fire, succeeded in inflicting heavy losses in human lives and equipment on the enemies of the Islamic revolution.

Quoting well-informed sources in Abadan, the PARS correspondent says that having failed to stand fast in front of the heroic Muslim stugglers, [words indistinct] Arab nationalism, or [word indistinct] his defense of Arab rights despite all the weapons supplied by the big powers, the support of reactionary regimes in the Arab area and his information media, Saddam Husayn has delivered a speech to Iraqi soldiers and senior officers in which he called on them to execute any Arab who is taken prisoner at the front. This shows that the infidel Saddam is not the protector and defender of the Arab identity but is relentlessly trying to wipe it out.

This also shows that Saddam, the bloodsucker, ignores the fact that those who defend the Islamic revolution, whether they are Arabs or Persians, have protected their unity and will not be afraid of the threats and false calls of the Baghdad infidels and that they are determined to continue the war until they topple the infidel Saddam regime.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 334-335

334: Clash With 'Illegal Forces'

LD111827 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Communique 334 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Combatitive and Muslim compatriots of Iran: Now that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the help of the guards corps and all the popular forces, are engaged in an imposed war against the aggressive mercenaries of the Iraqi Armed Forces, internal mercenaries and the enemies of the Islamic revolution are creating problems with their last-ditch efforts and various pretexts. They know very well that during these sensitive and fateful moments of war, to strike a blow or take advantage of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, would be in the interest of Saddam's infidels and damaging to the forces of Islam. Nevertheless, they commit such inhumane and anti-Islamic acts, not realizing that the forces of Islam, by relying on Almighty God, will not tolerate any obstacle or problem in their way, and will counter them decisively.

On 9 and 10 December, when the units of the army, brother guards corps and the Muslim peshmerga were on their way to the region of operations to close the penetrating routes of the mercenaries of the Iraqi Armed Forces and to occupy new defense positions, in the region of Marivan, the hamlet of Dezhni and Dezhni junction, they were confronted by the resistance of armed illegal forces, who call themselves popular and people's forces. They prevented the presence in the area of the military unit by opening fire with light and heavy weapons. During this clash 14 counterrevolutionaries were killed and 4 were wounded. Two of our combative forces were also wounded.

During the clash the following equipment and items were seized from the counterrevolutionaries: one 106-mm gun with its jeep, one Zil [Russian-built vehicle] truck, two Rio trucks, one jeep, one tip-up truck, one 120-mm mortar launcher, two 81-mm mortar launchers three 50-mm guns, 56 Kalashnikov and Brno guns, three boxes of ammunition for RPG-7 guns, 20 pounds of TNT, 13 kg of dynamite, two boxes of ammunition cartridges for Brno guns, 60 106 mm bullets, 27 120mm mortars, 50 81mm mortars and a large quantity of medicine and engine parts.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

335: Successes of Various Fronts

LD111826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Communique 335 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim compatriots in Iran. We bring to your attention some of the activities carried out by the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in various battlefronts yesterday, 10 December 1980, as follows:

A. Operational activities of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

The fast-flying and self-sacrificing combatants of the air force yesterday inflicted the following blows on the enemy: The destruction of an observation post, an AA gun, a military post and the killing of a number of enemy forces in the region east of As-Sulaymaniyah in Iraq; an attack on enemy armored forces deployed on the Abadan front and the destruction of an appreciable number of tanks and Iraqi Army personnel. At 0908 yesterday, 10 December, an aggressive Iraqi aircraft became the target of our air force fighter aircraft and was shot down in the region north of Mahshahr. Also yesterday, a number of aggressive Iraqi aircraft raided the cities of Hamadan, Dezful, Abadan, Ilam and Kharg, but were forced to flee thanks to air defense fire by the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

B. Operations by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 10 December:

1. Yesterday battles continued to rage in the western region and the brave, self-sacrificing combatants of the ground forces retaliated against enemy fire with intense artillery and heavy weapons fire but no accurate information is at our disposal with regard to figures of enemy losses and casualties.

2. Thanks to an air raid by the fighter aircraft of the air force of the ground forces, the Airborne Division, inside Iraqi soil on the (Fida'iyah), Ad-Dawrah, and (Al-Mu'ammar) regions, observations posts, two trucks carrying servicemen and an enemy fuel tanker were destroyed and some 15 members of the Iraqi Army were killed.

3. Thanks to artillery fire by the combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Ahvaz region, one enemy vehicle, two squad trenches, two ammunition trenches and several enemy mortar launchers and machineguns were destroyed, and also a number of mercenaries from Saddam's army were either killed or wounded.

4. As a result of ground forces' artillery fire in the Abadan region, two enemy tanks, one personnel carrier, one military vehicle, two trenches and one ammunition dump were destroyed and set ablaze. Similarly, in the Darkhovin region, the combatants of the ground forces were able to destroy one enemy tank and one fuel-carrying vehicle. No accurate figures have been given to us about the casualties suffered by enemy mercenaries.

5. The brave combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at dawn yesterday, participating in successful offensive operations, inflicted the following blows at the Iraqi Army forces in the Fakkeh border region: The destruction of four loaders, four annumition-carrying trailers, five trucks, and the setting ablaze of two large tents. Also, during the same operations some 50 to 60 enemy forces were killed or wounded.

C. The combatants of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, yesterday, 10 December, using RPG-7 and 106-mm guns, fired at enemy positions west of Khuninshahr, as a result of which six Iraqi Army mercenaries were killed and one of their annunition dumps was set ablaze.

In the meantime, the self-sacrificing men of the Ground Forces on the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 9 December 1980, on the Dezful front, destroyed two enemy personnel carriers, one 60-mm mortar launcher, one fuel tanker, one truck and one machinegun and set ablaze four ammunition magazines for heavy weapons, one large tent and a number of gas masks of the Iraqi Army forces. During these operations the number of enemy killed was 7 and 30 were wounded.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARD CORPS STATEMENT ON 9-10 DEC BATTLES

LD112011 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1652 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement this afternoon as follows:

In His exalted name. "At a time when world imperialism, led by the United States and its filthy puppets, on the borders of our Islamic homeland, is striving toward defeating our glorious revolution, its fifth column, too, in every nook and corner, using words and pens, is bent on weakening the self-sacrificing forces of Islam. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, while expressing appreciation for the vigilance and tremendous morale of the Islamic nation of Iran aimed at frustrating enemy plots and those of its filthy domestic agents, informs you of some of the operations carried out during the past few days by the brother guards on the battlefronts of Islam against blasphemy.

On 10 December 1980 the brother guards on the Susangerd front, by using 106-mm guns succeeded in destroying three enemy vehicles, one of which was loaded with ammunition. On the same date the guard brothers in the vicinity of (Golbahar), while occupying two mercenary trenches, killed four infidels and captured a quantity of ammunition.

On 10 December, on the Rijab front, 12 combatant brothers from the guards corps were encircled by 300 of Saddam's mercenaries, but immediately afterwards brothers from the guard corps, the imam's devotees and army brothers, hastened to their assistance with artillery fire and succeeded in breaking the infidel encirclement and in killing 70 Iraqi mercenaries. During these heroic operations one of the Islamic guards corps brothers was martyred and another was wounded.

On 10 December, in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, the combatant brothers of the guards corps, relying on the everlasting might of the one God, during a series of heroic operations, utterly destroyed a command bunker and the surrounding trenches of the Iraqi mercenaries together with the personnel deployed therein. During these successful operations three of the guard brothers were martyred. One of these martyrs was a brave petty officer who fought on these fronts together with the brother guards against the infidels.

On 9 December, our guards corps and mobilization brothers, in a clash with the infidel forces, advanced under artillery fire from the infidel mercenaries and succeeded in killing six of the infidels. During these operations, which took place on the Susangerd front, 10 guards corps and mobilization brothers were wounded. On the same date the brother guards on one of the southern fronts succeeded in locating and defusing 130 mines.

On 9 December, on the Susangerd front, our guards corps brothers, supported by artillery fire from our army brothers, shouting "God is great," attacked the very heart of the enemy positions and succeeded in destroying two enemy ammunition dumps, one personnel carrier and three vehicles belonging to the Iraqi mercenaries. Also during the same heroic operations our brother guards, launching yet another assault using two missiles, utterly destroyed 4 ammunition-carrying vehicles together with 30 of the infidels.

Saddam's duped mercenaries, who had suffered huge casualties, insanely opened fire using five-five guns against the city of Susangerd and its environs. During these operations one of the guards brothers was martyred and another three were wounded.

IRANIAN, IRAQI BATTLE CASUALTIES REPORTED

LD111926 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1646 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] PARS and the Central News Bureau today reported from the office of the governor general of Khuzestan that our brother guards are engaged in mopping up the region of Faryab on the front 45 km southwest of Ahvaz, from the filth of the existance of enemy forces. On the same front, yesterday, the brave revolution guards opened fire destroying two tanks and one ammunition dump of the enemy; a large number of the infidels were also killed.

The Central News Bureau also reported: During the past 2 days, the artillery of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, firing on positions of the aggressors in the Hamid Garrison on the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr highway, completely destroyed six tanks, six cannon, four vehicles and one personnel carrier of the enemy. Twenty Iraqi mercenaries were also killed or wounded.

According to PARS, the situation along the Abadan-Mahshahr highway was relatively calm last night. Artillery fire was exchanged between the combatants of Islam and the forces of blasphemy from 0600 to 1000 this morning.

On the basis of the same report, yesterday afternoon, as a result of heavy artillery fire from our forces, several Iraqi trenches and two vehicles were destroyed in Iraqi territory and several of the infidels were killed.

PARS also reported from the Khuninshahr front: Yesterday fierce clashes continued along this front between the defenders of Islam, the army personnel, revolution guard corps, tribal mobilization and the navy personnel on the one hand, and the forces of blasphemy on the other.

One of the most important observation trenches of the enemy and one vehicle of Saddam's mercenaries were destroyed in the western part of Khuninshahr yesterday morning. Forces deployed in this trench were killed as were the personnel in the vehicle.

The defenders of the revolution also opened heavy weapons fire on the Iraqi infidels' traffic on several occasions, killing a large number of the enemies of the Islamic revolution yesterday.

Another PARS report from the Khuninshahr front indicates that the combative naval marines inflicted the following losses on the blasphemous enemy yesterday morning:

1. Destruction of an enemy ammunition dump which continued burning for several hours afterward;

2. Destruction of seven squad trenches of the enemy;

3. Destruction of two machinegun trenches and two assembly points of the enemy;

4. Destruction of two fuel tankers full of fuel and the annihilation of a mercenary observer.

Reports received indicate that during these clashes, the forces of Islam did not suffer any losses.

According to reports sent from Dezful, the enemy who has violated the territory of the Islamic revolution, opened fire on residential areas because they are unable to stand up against the defenders of Islam. As a result several inhabitants of Dezful were wounded and taken to hospital.

The treatment headquarters of Khuzestan announced that yesterday the following number of wounded were taken to Ahvaz hospitals: three from Ahvaz front, one from the Mohammadiyeh front of Abadan and five from the Susangerd front.

SIX ACCUSED OF SABOTAGE EXECUTED IN AHVAZ

LD120538 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Bureau, the Islamic revolution public prosecutor's office in Ahvaz has dealt with the cases of six persons who had participated in blowing up pipelines, sabotage and importing arms from Iraq. It has sentenced all six to death. The verdict was carried out yesterday afternoon at various points in the city of Ahvaz.

The Khuzestan Islamic Revolution Court, in an announcement, has announced the names of the six persons as follows:

1. Qader Zargani, son of Majid.
2. 'Ali Sha'bani, son of Saleh.
3. Hasan Baldi, son of Soheyl.
4. Majid Karbalavi, son of Feysal.
5. Jasem Karbalavi, son of Mohareb.
6. Rahim Karbalavi, son of Bohlul.

10-11 DEC FIGHTING ON WESTERN FRONTS DETAILED

LD111850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Text] A Central News Bureau dispatch reports that today the battle has continued on some fronts in western areas of the country. On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin front, after several rounds of artillery fire by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, several enemy positions were hit, but no accurate figures have been worked out with regard to possible material losses and casualties.

On the Sumar and Gilan-e Gharb fronts the intensity of clashes subsided a little today, and in several areas in the Gilan-e Gharb region our heroic forces used light and heavy artillery to fire on Iraqi mercenary positions, as a result of which four Iraqi mercenaries were killed and one combatant of the Islamic Army was wounded.

A PARS dispatch reports that during a fierce clash, which took place yesterday between the forces defending the Islamic Revolution and the infidel Iraqi mercenaries in the Malekshahi region, the brothers from the guards corps, with their intense mortar fire, succeeded in destroying several enemy trenches and setting fire to a huge tent containing ammunition. During other operations using mortars in the same area an enemy truck was destroyed and two other trucks damaged. During these operations no losses were suffered by our forces.

PARS also reports that Colonel 'Attarian, commander of an operational column in the western part of the country, together with the governor general of Ilam and Abu Sharif, visited the battlefronts in Ilam yesterday.

Region 'Calmer'

LD120630 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Dec 80

[Text] According to a PARS report from Kermanshah, sporadic fighting is in progress on the country's western fronts, in a manner calmer than in previous days. On these fronts, fighting with the forces of blasphemy is going on with artillery fire instead of direct confrontation.

According to reports from the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Rijab fronts, following an attack by Iraqi commandos on the personnel of the gendarmerie in the Rijab region, as a result of a counterattack by gendarmerie personnel on the Iraqi commando unit, gendarmerie brothers chased Saddam at-Tikriti's mercenaries away, deep among enemy positions. Having inflicted casualties on them, they forced them out of the region.

According to the same report, the commander of the Kermanshah region gendarmerie, together with Hojjat ol-Eslam Khaliq, the coordinator for the dispatch of clergy to the battlefields in Kermanshah and the west country's tribal oppressed mobilization representative, visited the heights of Gahvareh in the Rijab region.

According to the commander of the Kermanshah region gendarmerie, with the reinforcement of the warriors of the Islamic Republic in the region, the situation is completely under control.

A report from Sar-e Pol-e Zahab states: Yesterday, a shell fired by the combatants of the Islamic Republic hit a tanker carrying fuel for the aggressive Iraqi forces in Qasr-e Shirin and the tanker exploded. Yesterday afternoon, fighting was still continuing in a calm manner, with artillery exchanges on this front.

BAKHTIAR DISCUSSES PATRIOTISM, ROLE OF WOMEN

NC111901 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Part IV of report on interview granted by Shahpur Bakhtiar to IRAN TRIBUNE; date and place not given--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Continuing with the interview, the IRAN TRIBUNE correspondent asked: Dr Bakhtiar, does a strong military force back you?

Dr Bakhtiar replied: This army backs the person who wants prosperity for Iran. Yes, the noble Iranian officers and soldiers are tired of Khomeyni's regime. About 80 of 140 individuals who were recently executed belonged to the military. Yes, the Iranian military stands next to me and next to any patriotic Iranian. But how? Allow this to remain secret for the time being.

The correspondent then asked: Can a return to Iran and the overthrow of Khomeyni not be a military operation?

Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar replied: A military solution in the sense of (?establishing coercive martial law)--never! I do not agree with an intimidating government and (?rigidity). If I had stayed on 18 months ago I would have lifted martial law. But now, with chaos reigning throughout the country, we need a very strong central government, but without turning it into a rule by Cossacks. (?Naturally) we cannot now give the same freedoms and opportunities of 2 years ago to the people. For a very short time we should act (?categorically) and strive to compensate for the destruction. During this period the power of the executive branch in Iran should be strong, so that it can, gradually, restore order. All this unemployment and chaos should be (?solved with prudence). I believe in a strong army, a fully-equipped army, but with fewer (?men).

The correspondent asked: Why does Khomeyni's regime belittle women so much? Do women not have a high place in Islam?

Dr Bakhtiar replied: The reason is clear. Now that this Mr Khomeyni has done his job he does not need the women. He only took advantage of the women's right to vote. Khomeyni and the clergy consider women weak, whose place is only in the kitchen. Such women cannot play a role in society. But I have always praised the Iranian woman. The Iranian woman is one of the kindest and brightest in the world. And these same Iranian women were the ones who rose bravely in front of Khomeyni, and did not fear. This standing up, this resistance, will never be forgiven by Mr Khomeyni. He is a vengeful person. Do you remember what their slogan was? "Either a kerchief on the head or a blow on the head." They thought that any woman not wearing the Islamic headress was not virtuous. Thank God that the Iranian women showed the extent of their [word indistinct], culture, chastity and virtue.

The IRAN TRIBUNE correspondent then asked: Do you remember that near the end of your rule your supporters shouted: "Bakhtiar, keep your position"? Have you been able to keep your position?

Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar replied: I think that I have not laid down the banner that they placed in my hands. Today many oppose Khomeyni. They leave Iran in large numbers and they pick up the banner of opposition against him, be they the ones who were in his administration or those who were not. But, as you yourself stated 18 months ago, no one but me opposed Khomeyni; no one but me issued statements; no one but me sent taped messages [to Iran]. This was my mission. I have always kept my position, both in Tehran and here. My thought has always been to fight against oppression and ignorance and to return to my homeland. When I stop struggling and [words indistinct] then you can say that (?I gave up my opposition). My duty is not a simple one. Wherever I am in the world, with all the means that I have, I will continue the struggle. And I know that the alert Iranian nation is next to me.

The correspondent asked: Mr Bakhtiar, why do you not have an official organ?

Dr Bakhtiar replied: Last year my friends proposed this to me. During the 30 years of my political activities, if I was not the first person then I was always the second person. I saw unworthy people in our front, people who went along, people who dissipated Iran. But my path has always been definite and clear-cut. After becoming prime minister, my discipline and policy led me not to act as some politicians did: not to become a maker of parties, a maker of directors general and a maker of newspapers. I believe that the majority of the alert Iranian people support me. My objective is for all groups with varying but not contradicting inclinations to gather and unite.

At this point the correspondent of the Persian-language IRAN TRIBUNE newspaper, which is published in America, said: Dr Bakhtiar, now that the Iraqi Armed Forces are on Iranian territory, how far do you think they will proceed?

Dr Bakhtiar said: I do not think Iraq will go further than this. Mr Khomeyni forced Iraq to attack Iran. Since the day he arrived in Iran he constantly created sedition against Iraq. He upset their security and enraged them. Mr Khomeyni's objective was to overthrow the [word indistinct] regime in Iraq, to weaken the [Saudi] Arabian regime, to overthrow Egypt's regime and to become an Islamic caliph and a sultan who would have the entire region under his influence--and, of course, under his medieval thought. I say that no Iranian can agree with Iraq's attack against Iran. But I am not only concerned with Iranian-Iraqi war. I am worried about the people who are killed and the destruction resulting from this war. And the person directly responsible for this is Khomeyni. As far as I know, if an acceptable regime is established instead of Khomeyni's regime in Iran, Iraq would leave Iranian territory rapidly. This is my opinion on Iraq.

A country like Iraq can never [words indistinct] having Iran. But if Mr Khomeyni stays in Iran, then there is danger for Iraq, that is, (?the danger of the overthrow of Iraq's regime). As a result, the countries of Arabic, (?Egypt) and others will be weakened. I [words indistinct] have to (?prescribe) the true remedy before (?the sickness arises).

The correspondent asked: Do you think that death is always lying in wait for you?

Dr Bakhtiar replied: Death is lying in wait for every person. [passage indistinct] All my wishes are [words indistinct] and the steadfastness of our country's flag and its territorial integrity. I have faith that Iran shall never die.

NVOI CRITICIZES U.S. NEAR EAST, MIDDLE EAST POLICY

TA112015 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 11 Dec 80

[Unattributed commentary: "The Associates of the American Expansionists"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: In Washington they are expressing pleasure at the continuation of the war imposed on our nation and homeland and on the Muslim people of Iraq--a war which has destroyed the lives of thousands of our homeland's people and which has resulted in so much destruction and (?damage); and well they should be. The United States is not only not content that it had the motivating role in launching this war, but it has gone further and is striving to create factionalism among the (?Islamic) countries situated in the Near and Middle East.

The United States is interfering with great haste in order to aggravate the situation between Syria and Jordan. The U.S. State Department announced that Washington has decided to sell Jordan 60 heavy tanks, and a large quantity of spare parts and essential equipment for war material which in the past had been put at the disposal of this country. The aim of the United States is the creation of a split in the front of the Arabs and in the liberation front of the Arabs in the struggle against the Israeli occupier, and the creation of (?military) bases in this region for aggression in the Persian Gulf.

In connection with the aggressive policy of the United States in the Near East and the Persian Gulf, political observers are devoting attention to the fact that lately Washington has increased its pressure on its allies in this potentially explosive region of the world. The primary reliance of the United States in implementing aggressive plans is still on Egypt and Israel; not long ago As-Sadat sent his vice-president, Mubarak, to Washington in order to assure the U.S. President that Egypt is prepared to grant it military facilities and ammunition stores for stockpiling American war material for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces--forces whose aim is the crushing of liberation movements of the nations of the Persian Gulf.

The recent joint Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers on Egyptian territory, in conditions similar to the ecological conditions of the littoral region of the Persian Gulf, is confirmation of this fact. Egypt has been transformed into the military ally of the United States in the Persian Gulf. Moreover, As-Sadat has invited NATO member countries to interfere in the military clashes between Iran and Iraq, and to establish a new military pact, namely, a branch of NATO, to occupy the Persian Gulf under the pretext of the appearance of a threat to the export of oil to the West and Japan. This silly pretext has been exposed for a long time now, as all the countries of the region, and particularly our country, have announced that they guarantee the transport of oil through the Hormuz Strait, and that safeguarding shipping in this strait and in the Persian Gulf region is the specific duty of the littoral states of this region.

The other point is that currently Pakistan is acting as the obvious and main associate of the United States in implementing its aggressive plans. Ziaul Haq has made Pakistan dependent on the United States and China through military treaties.

Beijing and Washington have transformed Pakistan into their main base against Afghanistan. More than $1.3 billion in loans have been put at the disposal of Pakistan for purchasing war materiel and for preparing counterrevolutionary mercenaries to be used against Afghanistan. Under Washington's pressure, Ziaul Haq is continuing interference in the internal affairs of our Islamic Republic as well. Subversive elements are dispatched from Pakistani territory into the Province of Sistan va Baluchestan in order to incite ethnic minorities and tribes against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The traitor Qabus, as well, has transformed Oman into an American base, thus (?consolidating) U.S. control over the Strait of Hormuz; the two-sided and compromising policy of Saudi Arabia has resulted in the United States deploying AWACS planes, Hawk missiles and its military personnel and advisers in Saudi Arabia under the pretext of safeguarding the oil industries of this country.

U.S. expansionist policy in the Persian Gulf is meeting with the resistance and confrontation of all the progressive and anti-imperialist forces of the world, especially of the nations of our region. The nations of the world condemn the United States and its associates in our region.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

9 Dec Commentaries

TA092042 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 9 December carried two commentaries:

The first one was entitled "A Trap Set By the Compromising Liberals." It said:
The reunification of people and groups opposed to the popular, anti-imperialist line of the imam in one front in these sensitive times is not surprising, since world-devouring U.S. imperialism, which has imposed this war with the aid of its elements in the region, has considered the conditions favorable for carrying out her plans to overthrow the Islamic Republican regime and for annihilating the revolutionary gains.

Meanwhile, a group of masked and unmasked U.S. agents, who were suspiciously able to get close to the leadership of the revolution abroad on the eve of the revolution and afterward were able to obtain sensitive posts by exploiting their friendship with the leaders of the revolution, are now extremely busy. This group, whose masks have gradually been (?torn) away, since they do not see their place among those true to the imam's path, have taken advantage of differences among the upper echelons to approach some authorities and politicians about allegedly organizing a front of the true revolutionary forces and the true followers of the imam's path. This group takes advantage of every opportunity to carry out its counterrevolutionary plans and resorts to creating discord among the followers of the imam's path, creating ferment in the bazaar and among a certain strata of the intelligentsia.

Recently, when there has been talk of the provocations of the compromising liberal bourgeoisie among our social circles, willingly or unwillingly, names such as Bazargan, Qotbzadeh, Yazdi or Amir Entezam are cited. The bitter truth is that these people put themselves in the president's camp and pretend that, allegedly, their standards are similar to the president's. "Of course, it is up to President Bani-Sadr to make it clear to the people whether he can really have a policy similar or approximately similar to the Qotbzadehs, Yazdis and Bazargans." What the people want to know is what caused people such as the Qotbzadehs to approach the president. In this connection an interview with Seyyed Hasan Khomeyni deserves attention. In it he confirmed that some people who had gathered around the president were trying to fan the flames of discord.

It will be very regrettable if some politicians fall into the trap of these opportunists and U.S. agents, since the people will judge the authorities on the basis of: "Tell us who your friends are, so that we will know who you are."

The second commentary, entitled "Another Revealing Document," said a scandalous document, which was recently published in some foreign newspapers, has once again revealed U.S. imperialism as the number one enemy of the Iranian revolution and the Islamic Republican regime of our homeland to the progressive world. This scandalous document, issued by the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran on Tir 1358 [June/July 1979] in a reply to a secret letter from the political section of the Iranian Foreign Ministry dated Khordad 1358 [May/June 1979], has been sealed with the words "top secret, very important, sensitive and ultra-secret." This document was written by the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the CIA and the Pentagon. "Among other things, this document says that the Pentagon and the CIA have examined all the views of political observers in Washington, of the shah and of Shahpur Bakhtiar; and included the shah's observations, which were concordant with the views of Washington's political experts, the CIA and the U.S. Defense Department, in the working program of the Pentagon and the CIA."

"As was clarified in previous examinations, in order to annihilate the Islamic revolution of Ayatollah Khomeyni the same previously reviewed programs were to be used: the inciting of (?tribal) leaders, inciting nationalistic and tribal feelings, aiding any leftist or rightist political organization or movement inside Iran and, most important of all, fanning the flames of differences and war between Iran and neighboring countries with which Iran has border disputes. Of course, inside Iran to some extent, grounds for rebellion and insecurity in some parts of Iran have been prepared."

"It is then stated in this secret document of the Pentagon and the CIA that if the rest of the programs turn out to be successful in inciting civil war, it will no longer be necessary to carry out the last phase: the starting of war between Iran and neighboring countries. But if confronted with failure, there will be no other remedy but to carry out the recent programs according to these decision."

We draw the attention of the compromising bourgeois liberals such as Qotbzadeh, Chamran and Yazdi to this scandalizing document so that, after it is revealed, at least they will not defend their masters. During the first days of the imposed war, when the imam said that it was America that was waging war against us, these representatives of the liberal bourgeoisie made a great uproar, saying that we were not at war with the United States. When other authorities, from the president to the prime minister and the leader of the Majlis, confirmed these words of the imam, the military expert of the liberals, Mr Chamran, succeeded in making a great discovery and said that, basically, we were in war against the Soviet Union.

The liberal bourgeoisie is the most dangerous enemy of the revolution and is still making efforts to return U.S. imperialism to Iran. The security of the revolutionary regime and the gains of the revolution depend on the irreconciliable struggle against U.S. imperialism and the compromising liberal bourgeoisie inside our liberated homeland.

10 Dec Commentary

TA101916 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 10 December carried a commentary entitled: "All Should Be in the Service of the Nation." It stated that Imam Khomeyni always stressed the necessity of alliance and unity of word and action among the crusading and committed forces and states that all the revolution's gains and all the revolutionary organs and government organizations should be in the service of the nation, a nation that brought this revolution to victory at the cost of the blood of tens of thousands of its best sons. Only several days ago, addressing the country's governors general, the imam of the nation said that everybody from the president to the governor generals should be in the service of the nation, otherwise a worse situation than before will develop.

Without doubt these frank remarks of the imam are a serious warning to those who, after attaining high posts, thought that the revolution had achieved its goals, and who regard themselves as above the nation and place themselves in confrontation with the nation. An example of such individuals can be found in the liberal-bourgeois wing, which, after attaining ministerial posts, acted against the people, over their heads and without their knowledge. Our nation witnessed this method during Mr Bazargan's provisional government and from its foreign minister, Mr Yazdi, and others. While under the leadership of the imam of the nation our homeland's people had risen in a fierce struggle against U.S. imperialism, these gentlemen met with Brzezinski in Algeria and sought ways to reestablish close relations with U.S. imperialism. Today these same Bazargans, Qotbzadehs, Chamrans, Yazdis and others are cooperating with each other in order to establish a constitutional regime without a shah, dependent on world-devouring America.

As a result of the revolution, the Iranian nation gained its lost rights. Now it is the nation that should participate actively in all the country's affairs. The real owner of this soil is the Iranian nation, and all should be in the service of the people. Everything should belong to the nation and all should be in the service of the nation, from the president to the lowliest official.

11 Dec Commentary

TA111840 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 11 December carried a commentary entitled: "The Welfare of Villagers is Conditional on the Implementation of Broad Agrarian Reforms." It said: It is a fact that the imam of the nation at every opportunity points out the need to pay attention to the requirements and to securing the welfare of the toilers of the villages. Only recently he stressed that we should assist the deprived villagers with all our potentials.

Paying attention to the villages and implementing broad changes in the life of villagers has vital importance to our liberated homeland, especially in the current conditions. We are all aware that among the principle bases of the counterrevolution are the big landowners and feudalists who still are not desisting from plundering and harming millions of toiling farmers. Moreover, in order to thwart the plans of world-devouring America and its allies in connection with carrying out an economic blockage against our homeland, the problem of providing foodstuffs and agricultural products for the people derives vital significance.

This task cannot be implemented unless big landowners are expelled from the villages and the land be distributed among those who work on it. Fortunately, the bill for distributing land among landless farmers has been approved and certain steps have also been taken to implement it.

However, there are still certain problems in the way of implementing this law and in the way of broad agrarian reforms. The implementation of agrarian reforms should be among the most urgent programs of the government. We should eventually attain self-sufficiency in regards to agricultural products and thus thwart the conspiratorial plans of U.S. imperialism and its allies. In this connection all our potentials should be mobilized.